

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are amended and claims 14-15 are added. No new matter is added. Claims 1-15 are pending and under consideration.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 7 is indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. However, since Applicant considers that claim 4, from which claim 7 depends, defines patentable subject matter, claim 7 is maintained in dependent form at the present time.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-6 are rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0018918 to Reyes et al. (hereinafter "Reyes"). Claims 1-6 are rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by U.S. Patent No. 3,768,377 by Engel et al. ("Engel"). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are amended herewith to enhance the format and clarity. The claim amendments are not made in response to the rejections as argued below, the claimed subject matter of the amended claims being the same as in the original claims.

Reyes is directed to a controller circuit for an exercise machine, which includes a board mounted transformer having tolerances near or below the inrush current generally present in activating one or more cooling fans. In the Office Action, item 2 on page 2, only one paragraph in support of the rejections of claims 1-6 is provided, which paragraph substantially paraphrases original claim 1. Therein, the same element (56) is indicated as corresponding to both the console unit and the console (which is an element of the console unit), while no suggestion is made relative to any teaching in Reyes relative to the claimed substrate, connector (which is recited in original claim 2), and rotation of the console. Not addressing all the elements and features in independent claim 1 renders the rejection of claim 1 defective according to 37 C.F.R. 1.104. Reyes fails to teach at least the substrate and the "console connected to the front end of the support member for relative rotation [...], the console being electrically connected to the substrate" as recited in the original claim 1. In view of the amendments of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submit that Reyes does not teach or suggest:

- "a support member **extending from a front end to a rear end of the console unit and defining a surface receiving and supporting a substrate thereon**" and

- “a console **rotatably connected to the front end of the support member** for rotation **relative to the support member** about a rotation axis traverse to a plane parallel to the substrate surface, **the console being electrically connected to a conductive element on the substrate**” (emphasis added).

Therefore, Reyes fails to teach or suggest every feature recited in claim 1, so that claim 1 and claims 2 and 3 depending from claim 1 are patentably distinct over Reyes. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses, and requests reconsideration of, the rejection based on Reyes.¹

Claim 4 is directed an electronic apparatus including an enclosure, a substrate disposed within the enclosure, a support member and a console. Reyes does not teach or suggest at least the following features recited in claim 4:

- “a support member **extending from a front end to a rear end thereof, the front end, the front end being connected to the enclosure, and the support member defining a surface receiving the substrate,**” and
- “a console **rotatably connected to the front end of the support member for rotation relative to the support member** about a rotation axis transverse to a plane parallel to the surface of the support member, **the console being electrically connected to a conductive element on the substrate**” (emphasis added).

Therefore, Reyes fails to teach or suggest every feature recited in claim 4, so that claim 4 and claims 5-7 depending from claim 4 are patentable over Reyes.

Engel is directed to hydrostatic button bearings for pumps and motors. According to Engel's invention, the hydrostatic button bearings pressurized in "sets" around the bearing support with at least one set pressurized with the unit's inlet pressure and another "set" pressurized by the unit's outlet pressure, together with certain surface configuration forming the sills and recesses of the individual buttons can enhance bearing performance.

Applicant believes that claim 8 patentably distinguishes over Engel disclosure, because Engel fails to teach or suggest at least the following features recited in claim 8:

- “a thrust member connected to the operation button, **the thrust member penetrating through a bore defined in the plate member**” and
- “an elastic transformable member continuous with the plate member and the operation button based on **integral formation**” (emphasis added).

¹ See MPEP 2131: “A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference,” (Citations omitted) (emphasis added). See also MPEP 2143.03: “All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.”

Therefore claim 8 and claim 9 depending from claim 8 are patentable over the cited prior art.

Claim 10 is directed to an operation button assembly including a housing, a plate member, an operation button, a thrust member, an elastic transformable member, a back member and a through hole. Engel does not teach or suggest at least the following features recited in claim 10:

- “a thrust member connected to the operation button, **the thrust member penetrating through a bore defined in the plate member**”,
- “an elastic transformable member continuous with the plate member and the operation button based on **integral formation**” and
- “a through hole **defined in the backing member and receiving the thrust member**” (emphasis added).

Accordingly claim 10 and claims 11-13 depending from claim 10 patentably distinguish over Engel.

NEW CLAIMS 14 AND 15

Claims 14 and 15 are alternative recitations of original claims 1 and 2 and are fully supported by the originally filed specification and claims.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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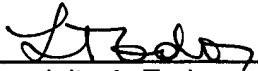
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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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